



# Bamboo — The Miracle Grass

A FILM  
FROM  
IDRC





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For centuries, bamboo's graceful shape has inspired poets and artists. The plant has traditionally been used to make everything from chopsticks and baskets to furniture and fishing net frames. Today, its many uses inspire scientists and engineers: bamboo is an important source of food, shelter, medicine, and fuel for half the world's population.

Bamboo, actually a member of the grass family, is a highly renewable and versatile resource that can be used in place of costly plastics and metals. More and more of its modern products are meeting the needs of people in developing countries. As the world's fastest growing plant, it seems to be abundant, but it is being harvested with little attention to conservation. With its thousand-and-one uses, consumption can exceed natural supply, placing some forests in danger.

*Bamboo — The Miracle Grass* documents a network of IDRC projects that are investigating ways to increase the production and quality of bamboo in Asia, and to come up with even more uses for this valuable plant. The film brings to the screen the faces of the people who depend on bamboo in their daily lives. It travels from an endless bamboo forest, to an efficient bamboo-shoot processing factory, to a laboratory where scientists are measuring bamboo's physical properties.

This 27-minute colour film was shot on location in Southeast Asia. It was produced by IDRC's Communications Division and can be purchased or borrowed as listed below. It is available as 16-mm prints or as video cassettes in NTSC, PAL, or SECAM signal systems (U-matic, VHS, or Betamax formats).

## INQUIRIES AND LOANS

### Southeast and East Asia

IDRC  
Tanglin P.O. Box 101  
Singapore 9124  
**Republic of Singapore**  
Tel.: 2351344  
Cable: IDRECENTRE SINGAPORE  
Telex: RS 21076

### South Asia

IDRC  
11 Jor Bagh  
New Delhi 110003  
**India**  
Tel.: 619411  
Telex: 31 61536 IDRC IN

### Eastern and Southern Africa

IDRC  
P.O. Box 62084  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel.: 330850  
Cable: RECENTRE NAIROBI  
Telex: 23062 RECENTRE

### Middle East and North Africa

IDRC/CRDI  
P.O. Box 14 Orman  
Giza, Cairo, Egypt  
Tel.: 738760  
Telex: DEVCN UN 92520

### West and Central Africa

CRDI  
B.P. 11007, CD Annexe  
Dakar, Senegal  
Tel.: 21-42-31  
Cable: RECENTRE DAKAR  
Telex: 21674 RECENTRE SG

### Latin America and the Caribbean

CIID  
Apartado Aéreo 53016  
Bogotá, D.E., Colombia  
Tel.: 2558600  
Cable: RECENTRE BOGOTA  
Telex: 45366

### Other regions

IDRC  
Communications Division  
P.O. Box 8500  
Ottawa, Ontario  
**Canada**  
K1G 3H9  
Tel.: (613) 236-6163  
Cable: RECENTRE OTTAWA  
Telex: 053-3753

## PURCHASES

IDRC  
Communications Division  
(See Ottawa address.)

Copies of the film can also be borrowed from some Canadian Embassies or High Commissions in developing countries.